FIVE MINUTE SERMON

BY THE REV. F. P. HICKEY, O. S. B. THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

OUR LADY'S INTERCESSION

A plain, simple, but very consoling lesson is taught us in this gospel, for it reveals to us the thoughtful, for it reveals to us the thoughtful, tender kindness of one who is not only the Mother of Jesus, but our own blessed Mother too. Recall the incident. Our Blessed Lord has just called the Apostles. The day after our Lord had been baptized, John the Baptist, as the gospel tells us (John i. 36.) saw Him walking, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." And two of His disciples, who heard this, followed Jesus. St. Andrew was one of them, and he brought Peter to the Lord. And the following day he brought Philip, and he brought Nathaniel. And the third day there was a marriage at Cana

ing of the comfort and happiness of others. She noticed that the wine was running short, and unbidden, uncalled for, just simply to prevent the confusion and shame of the bride and bridegroom, she quietly tells Jesus that they have no wine. In spite of His remonstrance that His hour had not yet come, in spite of a seeming refusal, her simple request obtains the favor of His first public miracle. Unnoticed by the others, she quietly tells the waiters, "Whatsoever He shall say to you, do ye." "Jesus saith to them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them to the brim. And Jesus saith to them Draw out now and carry to the chief steward of the feast. And they filled them to the brim. By the bridegroom, and saith to him, Every man at first setteth forth good wine, and when men have well drunk, that which is worse. But thou has kept the good wine until now. This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him."

This was His Mother Mary's doing! It is this same loving Mother that we pray to so often! If, without a prayer, and just for kindnesssake, she obtained the working of this first great miracle, what will she not do for us? There was will she not do for us? There was will she not do for us? There was and and character are something different from individual thought and action and character. National greatness begins with the individual and so does national wand so does national

kindnesssake, she obtained the working of this first great miracle, what will she not do for us? There was no need for her to have done it. no need for her to have done it. She was not bound to do it. She the Church has not lost it. And the

How, then, can she refuse us or "despise our petitions in our necessities," when she did this, unbidden, just to prevent shame and confusion to others? Our necessities are so we cry to her for help, to avoid sin, to repent, to give our hearts to God, to endeayor to persevere day after day, can our Mother turn a deaf ear to our supplications? Oh! Mary Mother of the Saviour, remember thy kindness at Cana, and be to us the same loving Mother now. Your request was Mother now. Your request was granted, although His hour had not yet come. Ever since He has been listening to you, and never yet refused you, for He wills that all grace should come to us through you O blessed Mother.

you, O blessed Mother.

What daily, hourly prayers should we offer to our Lady; what confidence and trust we should place in her love and her power!
Obtain for us, blessed Mother of Obtain for us, blessed Mother of

And at death—the time of all for a mother to care for her child—oh! may the Mother of Jesus be there.

Then all the prayers of our lifetime original flat. will intercede for us; the good habits formed in life come to our aid; in our hearts, when voice may fail, we shall call upon her to stay with How safe shall we be in the arms of our Mother, how blessed

And when we stand before the And when we stand before the Judge, please God, may "the Mother of Jesus be there." For the last time she will plead for us, and may it be her happy privilege then, "after this our exile is ended, to show us the blessed fruit of her womb, Jesus." Oh! that glorious, never-ending day of eternity in heaven, and—Mary the Mother of Jesus will be there.

RIGHT THINKING

day there was a marriage at Cana of Galilee, "and the Mother of Jesus was there. And Jesus also was invited, and His disciples, to the marriage."

Our Lady was a simple guest there whilst there were significant. And the third day there was a marriage at Cana retreat-houses for laymen in many sections of the country, where they "may withdraw and put themselves into training for the perfect Christian life." It is the Pope's wish that such houses may "come into heing everywhere are was invited, and His disciples, to the marriage."

Our Lady was a simple guest there, whilst others were enjoying themselves, she, with that tender mother's heart of hers, was think ing of the comfort and happiness of others. She noticed that the wine was running short, and while the wine was running short, and while the wine was running short and while the perfect Christian life." It is the Pope's wish that such houses may "come into being everywhere more and more numerously and flourish." The Holy Father's reason for desiring the spread of the retreatmovement is clearly put:

Pope in the twentieth century puts his hand on the sore-spot of the world, for with his century-old knowledge of human nature he at

PASTEUR CENTENARY

Philadelphia, Dec. 18.-The centenary of the birth of Louis Pasteur will be observed in this city on the birthday of the eminent scientist, December 27, when a civic celebra-tion will be held at the Academy of God, the grace always to turn to thee—like little children to their mother—in all anxieties, fears, and "And the Mother of Jesus was there." Let us impress those words on our soul, and endeavor to make them true in our now room. there." Let us impress those words on our soul, and endeavor to make them true in our own regard at all times, day after day.

In life, oh! may Mary Mother be there. At Baptism, when we became children of God, our souls had Mary there then. And she remained with us during our childhoot, till perhaps at last, some sad day, we drove our Mother away by mortal sin. But when we had repented, and received Holy Communion, again the Mother of Jesus was with us. How patiently she remains with us, guarding us, helping us, as we battle with temptation, beginning again after failures, rising after little falls, doing our daily duties with a good intention. This is the way to holy perseverance, which we must endeavor to obtain with Mary our Mother's constant.

on us, until volumes are written about them by physicians and whole new methods of therapeutics are founded on neutralizing them. They are only fear thoughts, but they succeed in making people quite unhappy. They disturb sleep and indigestion; they sometimes even make people tired of life and ready to leave it untimely. For a great many suicides have no other reason for their awful act of self-destruction than the fear of this destruction than the fear of things that may happen to them; and, though they could stand the actual conditions that have developed, they are so full of dread for the future that they prefer to end all rather than to face it.

"Just in proportion as life has become easier, and just in propor-tion as people get into a position tion as people get into a position where they can enjoy their ease and comfort, the number of dreads increase. Physicians who treat nervous disorders know this so well now that they expect to find an element of dread in most patients who come to them. People hear about the ills that may come from some form of food or mode of eating, and then they begin to eating, and then they begin to dread that they are likely to suffer in that way. About half the nervous people who come to physicians are nervous because they are underweight, dreading to eat, overfastidious about their food, afraid of certain vegetables because they produce acids, afraid of others because they have heard that they favor fermentation, eleminating certain kinds of food, the red meats

makes the gastric juice more end-cient. Its digestive quality is due not so much to a chemical as to a biological element which acts better Diological element which acts better Think of in the presence of fluids. Think of how much we have heard of veal being indigestible, and now physi-ological chemists tell us that it is ological chemists tell us that it is quite as digestible as chicken; that for all practical purposes it is indeed the same sort of meat and is an excellent food. Think of how much we heard of the necessity of cooking food to make it more digestible; and now we have after each of the necessity of cooking food to make it more digestible; and now we have after each of the necessity of the necessity of cooking food to make it more digestible; and now we have after each of the necessity of the neces tible; and now we know, after careful observations controlled by a number of observers, that raw cabbage digests better than cooked bage digests better than cooked cabbage and raw turnips better than cooked turnips, and that the body needs a certain amount of uncooked materials in the food to supply what are known as the vitamines. Think of all the dreads there have been in association where accepted the Mandate for Palestine. But even so that would not have settled the matter; for the conflicting interests would still have existed if the British had had nothing whatever to do with the British religious interests are not there have been in association. there have been in association with these subjects. The diffusion of information with regard to diseases of various kinds has rather added to the dreads than decreased them. People read in the disease and the decreased them association by the disease of various with the disease of various kinds has rather added to the dreads than decreased them. People read in the disease and the disease and the disease and the disease and the disease are not very much involved in Palestine, and the party solicited some spiritual favor, but this youth preserved a sullen silence. Finally, Pius IX. turned to him with a kind smile, saying in his gentlest tone:

"And you, my son,—have you nothing to ask of me?"

"And you, my son,—have you nothing to ask of me?"

"Nething Vour Heliness" (The

THE ILLS THAT NEVER
HAPPEN

Dr. James J. Walsh, in an article entitled. The Ills That Never Happen" contributed to Queen's (Work, contends that dread is an ingreat source of psychoneuroses in our day—that is, of the nervous conditions consequent upon distribred states of mind entitled. The most effective remedy for authority, quoted in these columns at official control of each of the will of God, no matter what it is an ingreated in the will of God, no matter what it is officially the work of the will office of the will is in heaven' must at the same time have the feeling that His will shall omnipotent, and the accomplish-ment of that will is all that any of us can ask for. Somehow, some-where, if not absolutely here and now, the accomplishment of that will is for the best for us and for everyone else, though we may not be able to see just how."

DISPUTE REVIVED

THE POLITICIANS AND THE HOLY PLACES

According to the latest advices from Geneva the Earl of Balfour, at the extraordinary session of the League of Nations Council, withdrew the British Memorandum regarding the Commission that is to investigate the question of ownership and guardianship of the Holy Places in Palestine. The reason for this withdrawal is said to be that diversity of political and religious diversity of political and religious interests, and rival claims of different communities makes an imme diate solution impossible.

Lord Balfour is reported as having asked his colleagues on the Council to do their best to overcome the difficulties, and the representatives of France, Spain, and Italy undertook to do what they could. So the matter rests, and it is not unreasonable for the ordinary

once envisions the individual out of the obscure the individual out of the obscure the individual out of the individual out of the obscure the individual out of the obscu threatened.

NOT A SIMPLE MATTER

But the matter is not so simple

known for their studies of the work of Pasteur.

Dr. Laplace, chief of staff of the Misericordia Hospital here, was decorated by the French Government for medical services during the War. He possesses one of the original flasks of bouillon prepared by Pasteur to demonstrate his theories in regard to putrefaction and fermentation.

See Velvetex Announcement on page 8.

develop merely as the result of sparing a limb or a muscle because of the dread to use it. We have any number of patients who are surrent who are suffering the War. He possesses one of the original flasks of bouillon prepared by Pasteur to demonstrate his normally. The lack of proper use leads to some atrophy. This emphasizes 'the feelings of discomfort and very often makes the tissues extremely sensitive to cold. People have been known to suffer for years from a condition of this kind, only

modating understanding had been reached between the British and the Holy See. But immediately the authorities of the Greek Orthodox be accomplished no matter what happens, since He is omniscient and omnipotent, and the accomplish settlement into the melting pot again.

can be clearly defined. For example, the Italian Government lays claim to the Cenaculum or Upper Chamber in which the Last Supper was celebrated by Christ and the Apostles. So far as anyone knows, the British have never disputed the Italian claim; though they have observed that the matter should be left to the decision of the League of Nations Commission. The Italians demur to this, and their demur is not unreasonable.

But while the Italian Government,

claims for the Franciscans the ownership of the Cenaculum, another claim has been put in by one of the non-Christian communities for the lower chamber of the same building which in several that the community of the same that building, which is reputed to be the Tomb of David, and a holy place for that particular religion. Thus a decision has to be reached touching both the upper and lower chambers of the same small building; one part being sacred to Catholics, the other part to non-Christians. The French Government, on the exploded theory that France is the traditional protector in the East, makes considerable claims in Pales tine, and some of these are in direct conflict with certain rights that simple Catholic to ask what is going to happen about these Holy Places in Palestine.

The solution is simple enough, if Catholic Spain has exercised in ciated with them, until finally they are not eating a balanced diet at all and are making themselves the victims of certain of the obscure forms of mainutrition.

"Think of how many people has been a great deal of coming and going has been

the unsettlement lies with certain Continental governments which are more concerned in enlarging their spheres of political influence than in the preaching of the Gospel throughout the world.

A REMINISCENCE OF PIUS IX.

A young freethinker—he called himself a freethinker—once accompanied some Catholic friends and relatives to an audience with the well-beloved patron and venerated namesake of our present Holy Father. Every other member of the party solicited some spiritual

"Nothing, Your Holiness." (The young fellow was at least polite and had learned from the others how to address the Head of the World

"Are you quite sure? Nothing whatever to ask of me?"
"Nothing, Your Holiness."
"Is your father still alive?"
"Yes, Your Holiness."

"And your mother?"
"My mother is dead, Your Holi-This answer was given in a voice that had suddenly become

unsteady.

"Well, then, my child, if you have nothing to ask of me, I have something to ask of you."

The young disciple of Voltaire, as he prided himself on being called, looked at the Sovereign Pontiff in open, eved extensishment.

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